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Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW
Suite 210 South
Washington, DC 20001

Re: BZA Case No. 17043

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in reference to BZA Case 17043 regarding parking requirements at the MedLink Hospital, at 700 Constitution Avenue, NE. I have lived in DC for 13 years and I have lived across the street from MedLink Hospital's purported non-emergency entrance for almost a year.

The Zoning Board recently granted MedLink Hospital a reduction in required parking spaces – something that has created significant parking issues for my neighborhood. The number of parking spaces taken up by hospital employees and visitors make it almost impossible for residents of the homes in the neighborhood to park. Furthermore, despite numerous pleas to the hospital and the city, ambulances routinely double park in front of the MedLink Hospital's 7th Street, NE non-emergency entrance, rather than park at the designated emergency entrance on the opposite side of the hospital building. Often, the ambulances are not involved in an emergency; rather, they are picking up or dropping off patients. Although MedLink Hospital temporarily corrects the problem after receiving complaints, it is a short matter of time before the ambulances are double-parked in front of my 7th Street, NE house.

Please consider revoking MedLink's Certificate of Occupancy for the following reasons:

1) BZA should revoke the Certificate of Occupancy because the Zoning Administrator issued it without input from BZA or the community.

2) BZA should require MedLink Hospital to provide the same number of parking spaces as required under BZA's existing orders, which establish how much parking is adequate for the facility. There are up to 176 parking spaces in MedLink's underground garage. There is no reason for the hospital not to use all available on-site parking spaces to reduce parking pressure on the neighborhood streets.

BZA
Case No. 17043
Exhibit No. 33

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17043
EXHIBIT NO. 33

3) There is no evidence of that MedLink Hospital has reduced its scale of operations. In fact, the number of patients at the hospital appears to be growing. The hospital's owner appears to have sought the new Certificate of Occupancy for the sole purpose of reducing parking requirements.

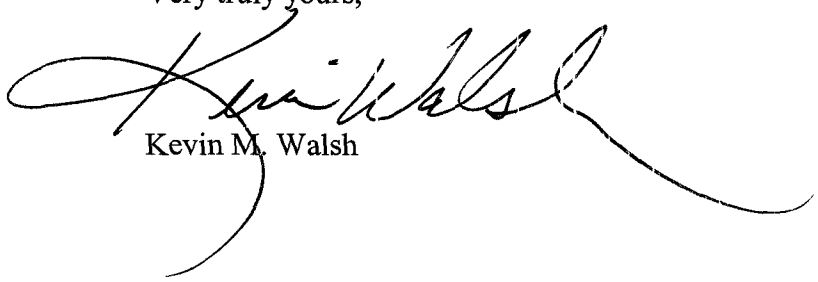
4) Since MedLink Hospital is staffed 24 hours a day, employees park on the street during hours not covered by the residential parking program, making it very difficult for residents to park on evenings and weekends in their own neighborhood.

5) MedLink Hospital has a consistent history of disobeying the parking requirements imposed by BZA.

6) Any reduction in the parking requirements should be conducted through a public process with opportunity for discussion of the adverse impact that reducing the required parking spaces will have on the surrounding neighborhood.

Thank you for considering these points. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter.

Very truly yours,



Kevin M. Walsh

cc: Ms. Sharon Ambrose